No. 294 April 1990

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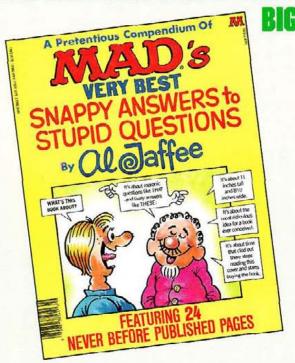


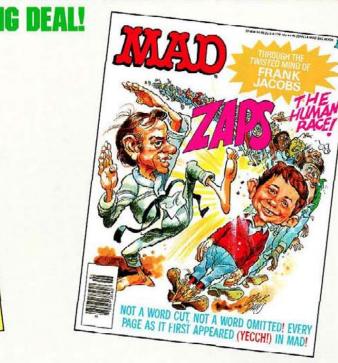


In This Issue We Shovel...
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"Ever notice how people who say, 'That's the way the ball bounces' are usually the ones who dropped it?" —Alfred E. Neuman

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DICK DE BARTOLO creative consultant

JACK ALBERT lawsuits ANNE GAINES logistics

GLORIA ORLANDO, LILLIAN ALFONSO, M.C. GAINES subscriptions

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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COVER ARTIST: RICHARD WILLIAMS BACK COVER ARTIST: JOHN POUND BACK COVER WRITER: DUCK EDWING

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DO YOU REALLY NEED TO KNOW... Pg. 10





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IT'S RAINING, IT'S POURING **READ THIS, YOU'LL BE SNORING**



From the drips at MAD comes this shower of laughs that you'll hail! (And that's no snow job!)

The big business typhoons at MAD forecast that you'll buy, and love ...

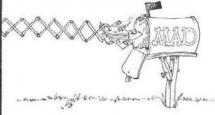
THE



... and they say that in all humidity!

ON SALE NOW!!!

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPT.



THE BERGEN MAUL

I can't thank you enough for that particularly hilarious parody of "Murphy Brown." "Murky Brown" was it? Very funny. Anyway, if you're ever in L.A., be sure to look me up. I live in a large brown house on San Vincente in Santa Monica. Just knock on the front door and a large, muscular man named "Gerta" will answer. When he does, simply use the code phrase, "Gerta, you are an imbecile." If he acts like he doesn't understand what you've just said, repeat the secret code phrase more loudly. Looking forward to your visit!

Candice Bergen Burbank, CA



Candice Bergen and a copy of MAD that won't go on the wall of her "Murphy Brown" office studio set.

FOOD NOTES

I have an idea. You can call or write one of the cereal companies and ask if they will make a Spy Vs. Spy cereal. They could make Black Spy crunchy chocolate and White Spy vanilla with chocolate covered marshmallows as bombs. If you like my idea notify me, okay?

Cory Burton Delray Beach, FL

Blue Bell, PA

The very same day I received MAD #291 (the issue featuring "More Items from MAD's Celebrity Supermarket"), the Philadelphia Inquirer ran an article on new celebrity food products. They mentioned Tom Lasorda pasta sauce, Phyllis Diller chili and Jamie Farr pickles, among others. It seems that once again you have foretold the future! Chris Whelan

Chris—Thanks for writing, but you haven't heard the worst of it! Some bozo has actually suggested they make a Spy Vs. Spy cereal!

NINTENDO ISSUE

You goofed again! On the cover of MAD #292, the guy in green is Luigi, and therefore he should have an "L" on his hat, not an "M". There aren't two Marios ... Heaven

> Shawn Corrigan Brookfield, WI

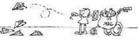
Other readers who used their warped sense of observation to spot the "L" and "M" cover switch include:

vation to spot the "L" and "M" cover switch include:
Steven Whitman, Fremont, CA; Timothy Rascoo, Conyers, GA; Marc Richards, Gloucester, MA; Aaron Niemezyk, Rochester Hills, MI; Ron Veiders, Depew, NY; Ned
Kulokowski, Wersew, NY; Fred Ngo, Brampton, Onferio;
Marc Freitas, New Bedford, MA; Jacob Boswell, Southbery, CT; Ryan Martin, Barnhart, MO; Richle Wyant, Moweaqua, It; Shane Cullum, Bellevue, WA; Nathan Fillizzi,
Wrightsville, PA; Wes Hommond, Ft. Collins, CO, Raymond Fischer, Shreveport, LA; Scott Campbell, St.
Albans, WY; Jacob Klein, Berkelay, CA; Beau Gervais,
Tysilanti, MI; Grog King, Huntingdon, PA; Brad Kimmel,
Glenview, It; Justin Winkler, Charlotte, NC; Shan Nelson, LA. CA; Richard Amaro, Topeka, KS; Roan Crabb,
Davie It; Jennifer Robinson, Los Osos, CA; Anthony Best,
Midlothian, VA; Stephen Tistonkol, N. Woodmere, NY;
Midlothian, VA; Stephen Tistonkol, N. Woodmere, NY; Davis Ft.; Jennifer Robinson, Los Osos, CA; Anthony Best, Midlothian, VA; Stophen Tistenkol, N. Woodmere, NY; Trover Heasley, Burbank, CA; Stovie Flaed, Branden, VT, David Kolb. New Orleans, LA; Sean Carney, Agoura Hills, CA; Joe Gomez, Huntington Park, CA; David Carolin, Ioronto, Ontario; Fred Bicknese, Caraopolis, PA; Edward Small, Warner Robins, GA; Collin Baum, Saltsburg, PA; Nick Penna. Murphysboro. IL: Daryl Stoneadge. Parksville, BC; Sean O'Neal, Arlington, TX.

I loved your "Joystick Jabberwacky" in MAD #292, but being a dedicated Nintendo addict, I think there are a few mistakes that I should correct. First: You can't Grumple in the Kraid. Second: It is okay to Goombah with a Neul, but only on level 27.3, sector 6. Third: A Mamda Jar is much too small to make Yuki in, and who would do it with a troll anyway? Nice try, guys. I give you a B!

Adam Dembrow Scarsdale, NY

Adam, what you say is true-but only of course for the mediocre journeyman Nintendo player. For Nintendo Grandmasters such as ourselves (commonly referred to as "Nin-tendo Grandmasters"), the difficult is easy and the impossible merely difficult. For a lovely plaque bearing this inscription, send \$5.95 to Merkle Press, Box 10.—Ed.



MORON MAIL

I wrote the following quiz question, which I hope you will include in a future

In 1582, King Henry III of France went to sleep on Dec. 9th and didn't wake up until Dec. 20th. Why weren't his doctors worried about this?

A) An 11-day sleep is good for a cold.

B) He was dead.

C) This is normal.

D) He was on an Italian diet.

The correct answer is C, because in 1582, the day after Dec. 9th was called Dec. 20th due to France's adoption of the Gregorian calendar. Thus, the king had slept only one night! Dr. Richard C. Famiglietti

New York, NY

On Dec. 3rd, MAD's Editors decided to print your letter. They did this because:

A) Due to continued global warming, they had temporarily lost all their comedic sense.

B) This is a five-column letters page and they were desperate to fill the space with any dribble they could.

C) They were hoping for free medical advice, though certainly not from you.

 D) MAD Publisher Bill Gaines is on an Italian

For the correct answer, send a self-addressed stamped anvelope to Morklo Press, Box 11.

BARR TABBED

Recently, I was reading Roseanne Barr's autobiography "My Life as a Woman." On page 118, she wrote:

"... All I could think of was going to New York City, I knew that that was where MAD magazine was, my all-time favorite literature, and I wanted to see it." How about that!

> Sandy Stern Brooklyn NY

Hmmm. A book by Roseanne Barr? Fal Sounds like something that would be published by Merkle Pressi—Ed.





THIS IS NOT NANCY REAGAN



Long before MAD was created, E.C. Publications put out a classic series of horror comics, including Tales From the Crypt, ghastly stories introduced by the "Crypt Keeper." Now, HBO is presenting an award-winning series based on those same frightful stories. Recently, special effects whiz Kevin Yagher and the Crypt Keeper dropped by to check out MAD #292. The Keeper suggested we change the title of MAD to "Old Jokes From The Crypt"!

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF PERESTROIKA



MAD's own Dave Berg was among the participants in a recent conference at Antioch University covering American and Soviet humor magazines. Interestingly, right after the conference, Glasnost soared and the Berlin Wall was opened. Colncidence? Rumor has it Dave is a shoo-in for next year's Nobel Peace Prizel Pictured left to right are Andrey "The Moscow Al Jaffe" Benyukh, Comrade Dave, Kaido "The Gorky Park Paul Peter Porges" Liiva, and Yuri "The Siberian Dave Berg" Prokopenko. Hey, anyone for Borscht??

DOUBLE JEOPARDY TROUBLE

In MAD #292's "Home Version of Double Jeopardy," the \$200 "Science" answer is "There are nine of these in our solar system." The Jeopardy question should be, "What are good issues of MAD?"

Chris Grabezynski Naples, FL

Swift, Chris. Here's another Double Jeopardy answer for you: "He's the best known drooling yahoo in Naples, Florida!"—Ed.

DISTURBED MAD READER

My next door neighbor recently had brain surgery. His doctor suggested plenty of stimulating literature, so naturally I gave him my MAD collection. Enclosed is the last picture we ever took of him.

Shane McMullen Loveland, OH



We have serious doubts about your letter, Shane. Anyone with a brain wouldn't be your next-door neighborl—Ed.

PARENTAL PROS AND CONS

I'm 42 years old and bought my 12-yearold son his first MAD today, so he can enjoy it like I did as a kid. Thank you for your wonderful satires on the tobacco industry and smoking related issues.

Humor is the very best weapon against this sleazy business and against the sleazy tobacco-state politicians, who are the biggest hypocrites around.

Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky is a big buddy of President Bush and says he is "pro-life," yet promotes tobacco, which causes miscarriages, feral damage, and is linked to sudden infant death syndrome.

People who read MAD will think twice about smoking, and I hope everyone in America reads it!

> Linda Rogey-Poole West Chester, OH

Linda, we too share your hope that everyone in America reads MAD! Please use the subscription form at the beginning of this magazine to place your order for 300 million gift orders. We will bill you.—Ed.

I am writing to you in disgust. I subscribed to MAD for my son Gabriel who is 11 years old to give him something to read. The other day the school administrator happened to catch Gabriel with your magazine and called me down. He showed me what things you print now: anti-family, anti-government, anti-God, etc. I was appalled. This is an 11 year old reading and laughing at the trash you print. I can only imagine how many children are reading this lust, deceit, cheat, steal, adultery, pornography of a magazine. I almost cried to think for the past five months my son has been reading this trash and I had it right under my nose all the time. How in the world can you do this to the future generation of America? I had to ask my son's forgiveness for our ignorance. We request you remove our son's name from your mailing list and I pray God has mercy on your souls. I will be praying for the other children on your mailing list.

> Tangie Caraveo Dallas, TX

After reading your lengthy letter, we have but one question: Are you related to Mitch Caraveo of Toledo, Ohio? Just wondering.—Ed.

Please Address All Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 294, 485 MADison Avenue New York, NY 10022

MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-assessed, stamped envelope!



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH



This issue's absolutely fabulous envelope comes to us from Vu Hoai Ha of Rogers, AR! Sure, we could accuse Vu of ripping off the design from the cover of MAD #257 (Sept. '85), but we're just not that kind of people!

THE MIAMI CLOWN MACHINE DEPT.

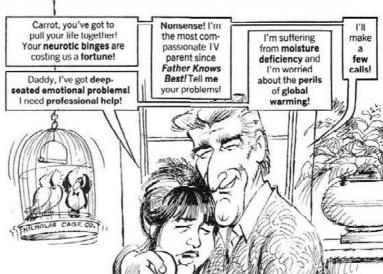
Take a rubber-faced widower starting his life over, two grown daughters still seeking their dad's love, a lumbering dog, a great time slot—and what have you got? Unfortunately, you've got an ...



Good morning, Dreyfoos! Hey, I've got a rough day ahead at the office, Did you hear about it, Dreyf's A flu epidemic Dreyfoos! This dog drinks from a toilet and yet his life is more together than of ither of my two daughters'! Hey, I thin







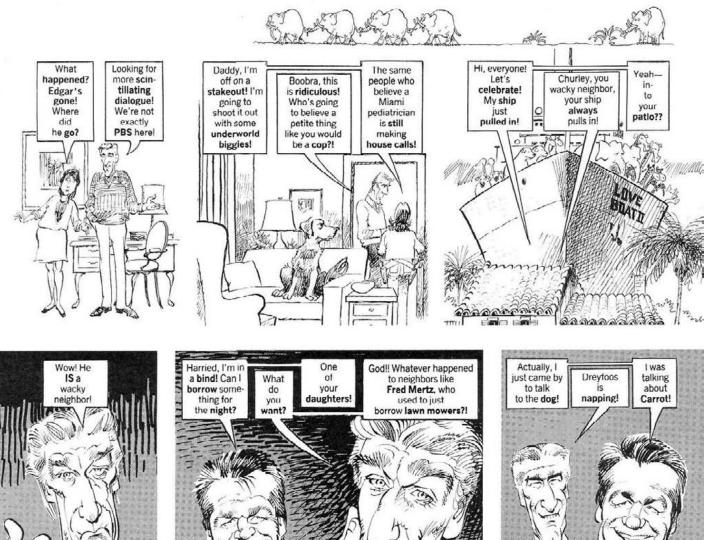




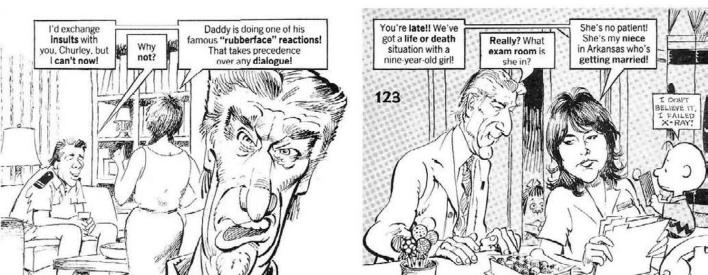


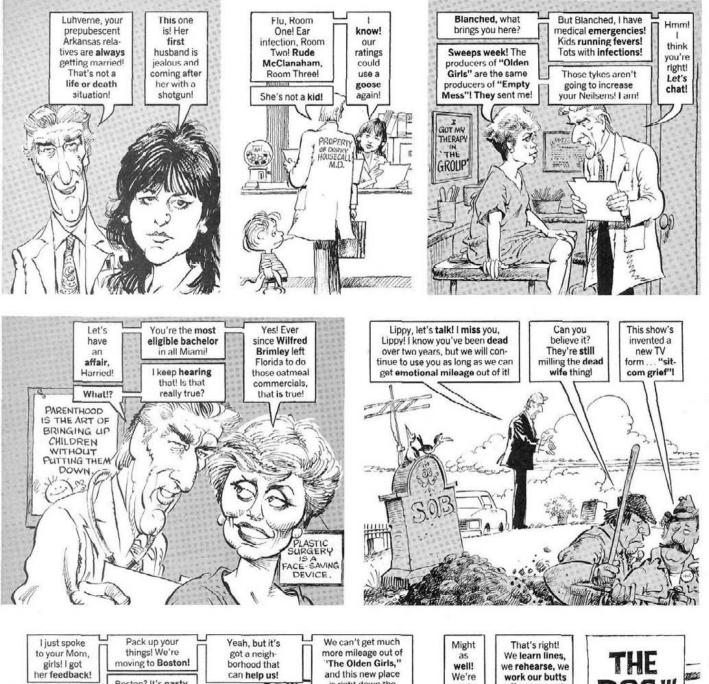








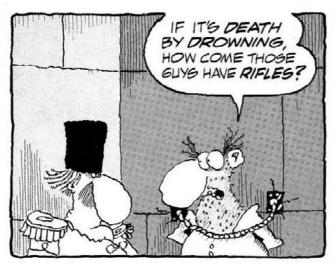


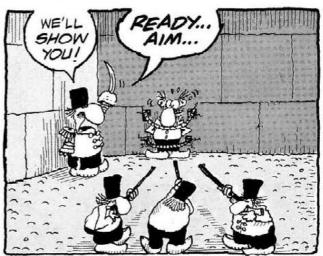




THE DOUBLE DUTCH DEATHTRAP











FACTS EVASION DEPT.

These days we're bombarded with information from TV, books, movies, parents, teachers and even worthless humor magazines! Most times, the information is either stupid, useless, embarrassing or too late to do you any good! To see what we mean, think back and consider all of the information you were given lately. Then sit back and ask yourself ...

Do You RE



... Exxon's side of the oil spill story?



... most of the statistics that baseball announcers spew at you?



...the plot line in a porno movie?



...that some guy died in the bedroom of the apartment you just rented?



...the weatherman's five-day forecast, when he usually can't get it right for just one day?



... anything about your Uncle Beppe's goiter operation?

ALLY Need To Know...

IDEA: MARY PAT LINDL

WRITER: J. PRETE



...how many times a co-worker calling in sick threw up?



...that your dinner companion found a hair in his linguini?



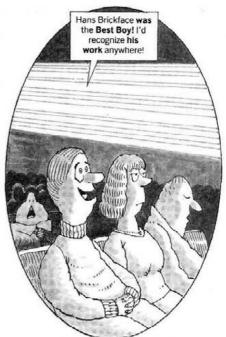
...the number of guys your girl was with before you?



... that your subscription to Time magazine runs out in just 113 more issues?



... how much better a student your older sister was than you?



... at the end of a film, who the "Best Boy" was?

SCHMOE JOBS DEPT.

Attention high school graduates—or anyone planning to become one! MAD knows a lot of you have decided not to go on to college. (In fact, we can't think of any MAD readers who have gone to college, except those serving as janitors!). Sooner or later you'll need to think

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE



CASH IN ON AMERICA'S SHORTAGE OF PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED **SCOTCH TAPE REPLACERS!**

Scotch tape is used at NASA, the White House, the offices of Major League Baseball and almost all of the Fortune 500 companies! Steven Spielberg uses Scotch tape! So does Carl Sagan, Cher and Peter Falk! How would you like it if the next time they got to the end of a rall, YOU were the one they called? As a graduate of The Fickstein School For Scotch Tape Replacing, they might! UNLIMITED

EARNINGS

POTENTIAL!

Our faculty will teach you how to remove the empty spool from the Scotch tape dispenser and replace it with a fresh roll! We'll also show you how to remove that little starter tab on the roll without getting your fingers stickyl

Send for more details, but don't expect many!

The Fickstein School* For Scotch Tape Replacing

59 Adhesive Road, Gummed, MI 30577 (Absolutely NO job placement service available)

'Not affiliated with the Fickstein School of Ham Tasting



AND WE MEAN BIG! RAIN HOME! Here's a once-in-a-lifetime offer from

THE FORTUNE COOKIE WRITING INSTITUTE of AMERICA!

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A new friendship is on the horizon

You are just starting to develop your talents

hese are just a few of the hundreds of fortune cookie classics written by our graduates who now have rewarding jobs in hot, steamy oriental kitchens from Singapore to Shanghai! You probably thought it took years to master this ancient art form but the truth is our comprehensive at-home study course shows you how to break into this exciting field in just 12 weeks!

Here are just two of the incredible fortune cookie writing secrets you'll learn: Why you should never use the word "botulism" in a fortune!

How to avoid writing fortunes so long that they have to be continued on the next cookie!

Enroll now and receive our free fortune cookic newsletter-It's only two inches long! Also, ask us about opportunities in the booming off-color fortune writing industry! Send \$135.00 (cash only) to:

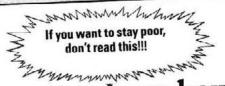
OF AMERICA, 81 BARNYARD LANE, LITTLETYPE, ID 87234

about getting a job. And to help you find the right one, we've compiled a cross-section of ads from our nation's finest vocational, trade and correspondence schools. So the following is not just another dumb article, it's an employment godsend! It's a meal ticket!! It's...

REERMART

WRITERS: JOE RAIOLA AND CHARLIE KADAU





Let me teach you how to

Repair Socks

... and you'll be able to retire in a month!

Listen to this! Just four weeks ago I was so poor I had to wear dish towels to the office! Things were so bad I didn't even have enough money to have a key made for my front door, so whenever I left my apartment I had to break back in! Then I learned how to repair socks. Now, I have a key!

Couldn't you use \$18,000 right now? Wouldn't you like to make \$360,000 per hour? How about \$140,400,000 per week or \$748,800,000 per year? If you attend my sock repair school and you're ambitious enough, you just might! But more important than money, by starting my own business, I've made sure that I will never suffer abuse at the hands of a boss again. Now, I have the freedom to abuse myself!



College of sock repair founder and Dean. Ed Stickystuff, using a \$1,000 bill to light a \$20 cigar while wearing a \$750 suit, a \$2,500 gold chain and a \$5,000 toupee.



MY \$3,000 GUARANTEE

This is a bonalide guarantee that EVERYONE who graduates from my school is eligible for! II, for any reason, you fail to become a multimilionaire, I promise to get so opset that I will go out and spand \$3,000 un myself before I feel batter, WITHIN 48 HOURS OF HEARING FROM YOU!

seconds after I for another

	00.00. If I don't make \$18,000 in 90 seconds after
Enclosed is a	00.00. It i don't man to any all for another
dusting fr	om your school, I promise to enroll for another
graduating ii	om your come, the best of
competer let	ne know where your school is Incated.

Name ____ Address ___

State.

Zip

College of Sock Repair P.O. BOX 55, Scam, OH 88769

THE CAST IS DIED DEPT.

Eventually, every TV show dies—the sitcoms and the shoot-em-ups, the hits, the bombs and the hangers-on. But why do they die? Well, once again Mad has unearthed a secret report written by the white-coated man who examines the corpses of prime-time TV. Here then, is

THE MA TV CORO

KATE AND ALLIE



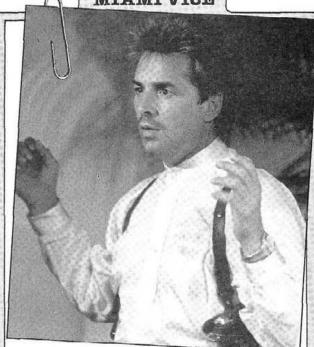
CAUSE OF DEATH: Femininum Monopolus

For many generations, husbands on most sitcoms were either ludicrous ("The Jeffersons"), nondescript ("The Brady Bunch") or unnecessary ("Alf"). Subjects were guinea pigs in a male-role transplant experiment to prove that a pair of divorced wives could be equally ludicrous, nondescript and unnecessary. Initially a success, the transplant failed when rejection by its audience proved fatal.

SYMPTOMS

Lack of originality in title caused viewers to often confuse "Kate and Allie" with "Cagney and Lacey," "McMillan and Wife" and, in extreme cases, "Jake and the Fatman." Complicating matters, a number of observers further confused Kate with Allie, a phenomenon first detected in the critical case of Siskel and Ebert.





CAUSE OF DEATH: Trendyus Deceptus

For several years the subject remained alive sustained only by artificial means—new-wave rock soundtracks, macho-chic fashions and glitzy sets. But these were not enough to save the body, weakened by script decay, listless performances and terminal plot rot. With the immune system failing, the subject languished and, mercifully, was allowed to die.

SYMPTOMS

Despite its once-robust appearance, the subject lacked the strength to survive swollen heads and a bloated budget. Put on a costly life-support system, it soon realized that it was only a matter of time before the network would pull the plug.

D NER'S REPORT VOLUME II

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

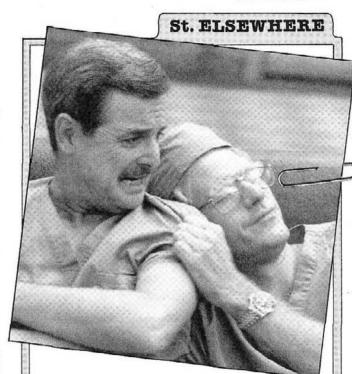


CAUSE OF DEATH: Soapus Unendurablus

Subject hung on years past its life expectancy, despite suffering larceny, infidelity, assault, double-dealing, kidnapping, divorce, rage, amnesia and greed. Finally, after a decade of torment and having no absurd plot twist to live for, it died, its dialogue in a coma and its story-lines in a state of decay.

SYMPTOMS

Terminal illness set in when central characters, already past their prime, began showing signs of an old-age malady known as Carrington's Disease. Life-threatening in the best of times, it proved twice as deadly in the youth-worshipping era of the 1980s.



CAUSE OF DEATH: Malpractice

Unable to function effectively as either a comedy or a drama, the subject suffered an identity crisis which proved fatal. Ironically, no one in charge was able to diagnose the ailment, despite the abundance of medical personnel.

SYMPTOMS

The patient's condition was weakened by ensemblitis, or "character overload," which led to the subject collapsing beneath the sheer weight of its cast. The subject might have survived with a producer transplant or the summoning of a top ensemble specialist from "L.A. Law." When neither event occurred, no emergency in-house operation could save it.

FAMILY TIES



CAUSE OF DEATH: Longevitus Maximus

Translated: Old age. According to TV internists, this is the most feared ailment in the entertainment world, basically because it is irreversible. As the symptoms worsen, patients realize their lives are ending, their only solace coming from the knowledge that they will be born again in the afterlife of syndication.

SYMPTOMS

Loss of credibility and pronounced character breakdown. Despite advances in cosmetic surgery and camera angles, it is as absurd to transform a 28-year-old into a teenager as it is, say, to send someone back to the future.

MORTON DOWNEY JR.



CAUSE OF DEATH: Lippus Scurrilus

Corpse was found face up with jaws open, leading coroner to rule that death occurred when subject choked on its own venom. Identity of subject remained unknown for several days, due to refusal of anyone to come forth and identify the body.

SYMPTOMS

Early reports that subject was suffering from acute verbal diarrhea were not taken seriously until ailment proved to be highly contagious to audience members. Syndication led to abnormal growth, which, after nationwide exposure, turned malignant.

MOONLIGHTING



CAUSE OF DEATH: Blabbus Indulgus

Blabbus Indulgus is usually not fatal, but in this case it was complicated by the rare disease of Adolescensus Cutesius, a virus harmless to teenagers but deadly when it strikes anyone over the age of 30.

SYMPTOMS

Though physically healthy, the subject, being emotionally retarded, suffered from a variety of psychological disorders. Severe trauma resulted as two giant egos fought for control of a small screen, eventually destroying both themselves and their ratings. In the end, subject chose death over being declared criminally inane.

WHO'S THE BOSS?



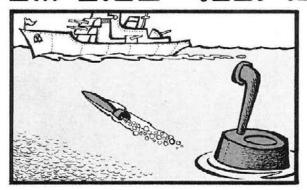
CAUSE OF DEATH: Danzus Adnausius

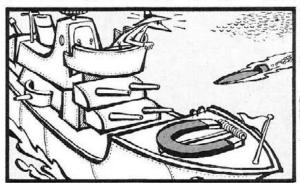
Examination reveals that although subject is technically alive, it has been brain-dead for several seasons, a phenomenon first observed in "Gimme A Break" and later in "The Hogan Family."

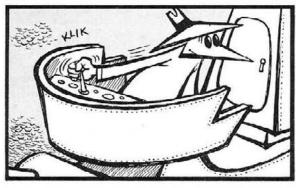
SYMPTOMS

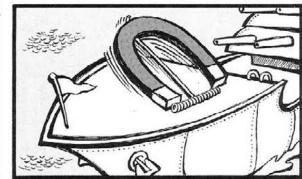
That the subject had a basis to exist in the first place touched off a bitter debate between right-to-lifers and their opponents. Once the subject was allowed to survive, many people hoped it would run its course like a bad cold—worsen, turn into pneumonia and die. Unfortunately, yearly injections of cheap machismo have kept it alive.

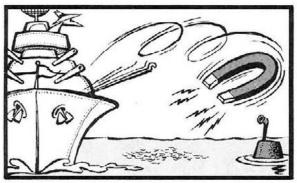


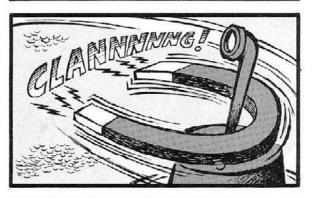


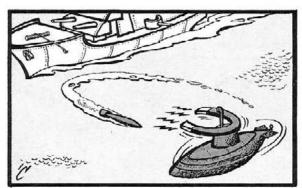














EQUALITY





BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THELIGHTE

SHOPPING







GIFTS





BSDEOF... ARTIST & WRITER DAVE BERG

BEHAVIOR



CAREERS



TELEVISION





PROBLEM SOLVING



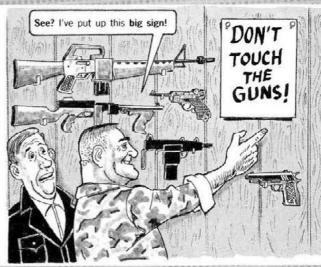
THE ECONOMY





GUNS





CONVERSATION







RELATIONSHIPS



They should try getting help from a marriage counselor!





THE OFFICE







SIBLINGS





DOCTORS



THE CANNIBAL COFFEE-SHOP CONUNDRUM





FRANK ON A ROLL DEPT.

We've all sung about Old MacDonald and his cows and pigs and sheep. But farming has changed, and these days he's got more to contend with than the old "moomoo here" and "oink-oink there." As you'll see in this updated version of...

OLD Mac

Old MacDonald farmed the land—E-I-E-I-O! But failed to prosper as he'd planned—E-I-E-I-O! With a wheat blight here and a corn blight there— Here a blight, there a blight, ev'ry crop a sad sight; Old MacDonald lost four grand—E-I-E-I-O!

Old MacDonald, smart guy he—E-I-E-I-O!
Sprayed all his crops with DDT—E-I-E-I-O!
With a cough, cough here and a hack, hack there—
Here a choke, there a choke, worse than cig-a-rette smoke;
A wheat blight here and a corn blight there—
Here a blight, there a blight, ev'ry crop a sad sight;
Old MacDonald groaned "Why me?"—E-I-E-I-O!

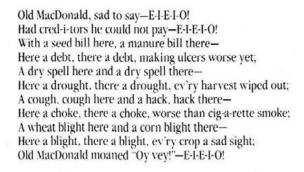
Old MacDonald prayed for rain—E-I-E-I-O!
To save his rotting fields of grain—E-I-E-I-O!
With a dry spell here and a dry spell there—
Here a drought, there a drought, ev'ry harvest wiped out;
A cough, cough here and a hack, hack there—
Here a choke, there a choke, worse than cig-a-rette smoke;
A wheat blight here and a corn blight there—
Here a blight, there a blight, ev'ry crop a sad sight;
Old MacDonald prayed in vain—E-I-E-I-O!



DONALD

IDEA: DAN LOZER

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS



Old MacDonald, sought relief—E-I-E-I-O!
He called D.C. and hailed the chief—E-I-E-I-O!
Got a con job here and a snow job there—
Here a stall, there a stall, up against a stone wall;
A seed bill here, a manure bill there—
Here a debt, there a debt, making ulcers worse yet;
A dry spell here and a dry spell there—
Here a drought, there a drought, ev'ry harvest wiped out;
A cough, cough here and a hack, hack there—
Here a choke, there a choke, worse than cig-a-rette smoke;
A wheat blight here and a corn blight there—
Here a blight, there a blight, ev'ry crop a sad sight;
Old MacDonald cried "Good Grief!"—E-I-E-I-O!

Old MacDonald got bad news—E-I-E-I-O!
His bank refused his IOUs—E-I-E-I-O!
With a "Screw you!" here and a "Screw you!" there—
Land they took, cows they took, wiping out the poor schnook;
Got a con job here, and snow job there—
Here a stall, there a stall, up against a stone wall;
A seed bill here, a manure bill there—
Here a debt, there a debt, making ulcers worse yet;
A dry spell here and a dry spell there—
Here a drought, there a drought, ev'ry harvest wiped out;
A cough, cough here and a hack, hack there—
Here a choke, there a choke, worse than cig-a-rette smoke;
A wheat blight here and a corn blight there—
Here a blight, there a blight, ev'ry crop a sad sight;
OLD MacDONALD NOW SELLS SHOES—E-I-E-I-O!

BLUNDER ENLIGHTENING DEPT.

Way back in MAD #254, we presented chapter one of "The MAD 'DON'T' Book," a feature created to explain the value in knowing what not to do in a given situation. We also promised to

THE MAL



(Chapte

CHAPTER 2:

ON A FIRST DATE



DON'T bring your date second-hand flowers.



DON'T try to earn the admiration of your date by exhibiting your pickpocketing skills.



DON'T try to get on the good side of your date's father by showing off your extensive knowledge of pornographic films.

CHAPTER 3:

AT A HOSPITAL



DON'T take used hypodermic needles from the trash and fashion makeshift "squirt toys" out of them.



DON'T use a patient's oxygen tank to inflate a bunch of "Get Well Soon" balloons.



DON'T try to cheer up a convalescing friend by giving them a cake baked in the shape of the diseased organ they just had removed.

present additional chapters in future issues, although we desperately tried not to do so! But sadly, recently passed "Truth in Magazine" legislation forces us to finally publish...

rs 2-5)

ARTIST: PAUL COKER

WRITERS: CHARLIE KADAU AND JOE RAIOLA

CHAPTER 4: WHAT NOT TO DO

IN A CROWDED ELEVATOR



DON'T use the elevator as an intimate catering hall for your wedding reception.

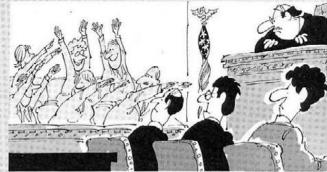


DON'T use the elevator to do research for your term paper, "The Study of Hornets in a Closed Environment,"



DON'T tell a stranger that the last elevator you rode in was so shaky it released all of the toxic gases you carry in your briefcase.

CHAPTER 5: WHAT NOT TO DO IN A COURTROOM



Just before declaring a guilty verdict, DON'T convince fellow jurors to join you in doing the "wave."



DON'T insist that your attorney attempt to trick a stubborn witness by crossexamining him with a ventriloquist's dummy.

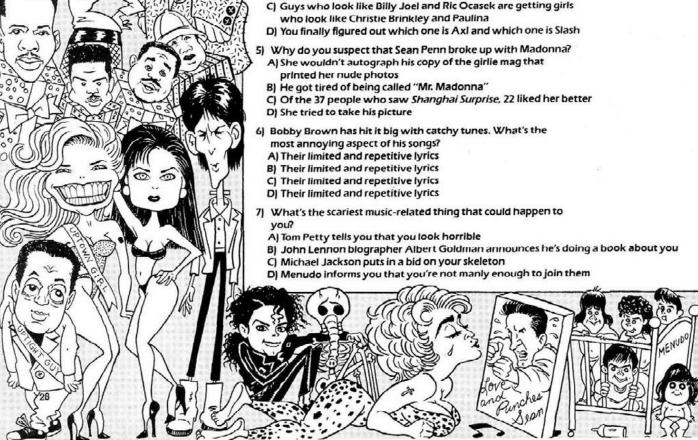


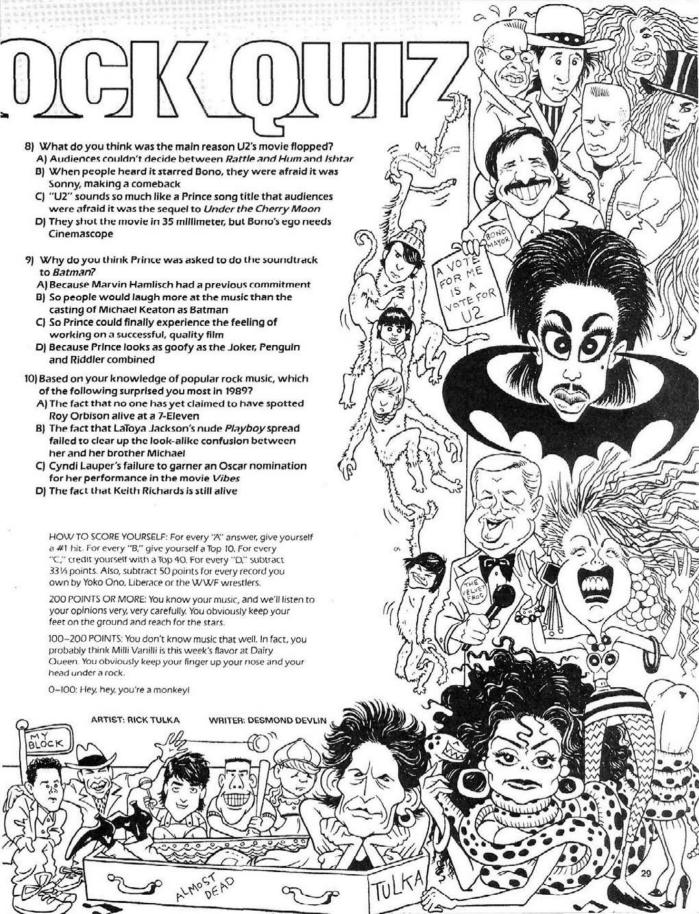
DON'T try to sway the jury by filling the courtroom with a flock of parrots, all of whom have been trained to say "not guilty."



Hey, listen to this! We have proof Billy Idol's hair is not his own! We know for a fact that Paula Abdul is a robot because we had lunch with the man who constructed her shoulders! We are hip, hot music experts! How about you? To find out, take...

- 1) What worrisome event in rock troubled you the most in 1989?
 - A) Realizing the Traveling Wilburys combined are over 200 years old
 - B) Catching yourself humming "Don't Worry, Be Happy"
 - C) Almost understanding what R.E.M. is singing
 - D) Knowing that just because Barry Manilow is gone doesn't mean he'll never be back
- 2) What was the most original, fresh song you heard in the last year or so?
 - A) "Don't Be Cruel" by Cheap Trick
 - B) "Helter Skelter" by U2
 - C) "I Saw Him Standing There" by Tiffany
 - D) "Wild Thing" by Sam Kinison
- With the success of such rappers as LL Cool J, DJ Jazzy Jeff. Ice-T, Tone Loc, Al B. Sure and Kool Moe Dee, which of the following seems to be the best name for a new rapper? A) LL Bean
 - B) TV-Guide
 - C) O Say Kan U See
 - D) If A=4, Then 2A-3=5
- 4) What is the most promising development you've seen in music
 - A) Championship sports teams no longer feel obligated to record
 - B) They've almost run out of classic rock songs to ruin in TV ads
 - C) Guys who look like Billy Joel and Ric Ocasek are getting girls





AT THE OFFICE



TEACHING THEM A LISTEN DEPT.

Don't you wish there was some way of getting even with the obnoxious creeps who listen in on private conversations? Then rejoice! There

EAST SALLS

ARTIST: BOB JONES

AT A RESTAURANT



AT A DOCTOR'S OFFICE



is!! The next time your personal chatter is tuned-in to by unwanted ears, give 'em more than they bargained for with MAD's patented ...

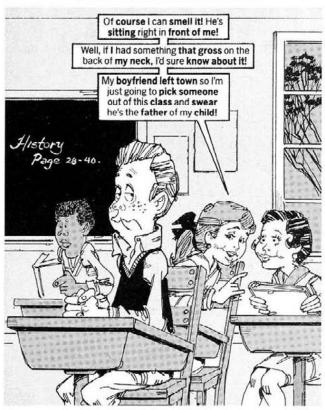
ROPPER-



IN ADJOINING APARTMENTS



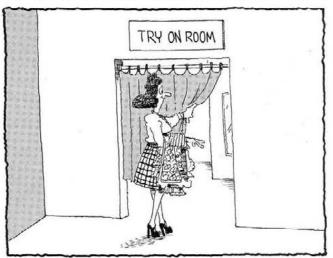
IN A CLASSROOM



ON AN AIRPLANE



DRAMA ON PAGE 32











IT BLURTS SO BAD DEPT.

Today, government agencies, private business and frazzled individuals all have a lot of bad news to dish out that they don't want us to hear. How, then, do they do it? Simple! They bury the negative facts under a heavy layer of positive hot air! This technique of putting us in a good mood before they hit us with the awful truth is a sneaky skill that all MAD readers should learn to recognize—mainly so they can employ the same techniques themselves when the occasion arises. So join us now as we carefully examine some blatant examples we've collected of:

THE ART OF BREAKING BAD NEWS GENTLY



WRITER: TOM KOCH



To All News Editors FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

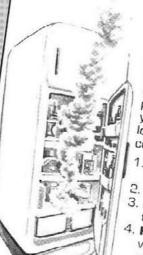
Ibex Industries is delighted to announce the appointment of Harley J. Pitlik, Jr., to the office of Chairman of the Board. Mr. Pitlik, a loving father as well as a college graduate, replaces C.J. Winterhorn, who retired recently after 36 years of devoted service to the company.

lbex spokesmen said that Former Chairman Winterhorn is now enjoying a well deserved vacation in Brazil. He has purchased a comfortable villa near Rio de Janeiro with part of the \$6,000,000 in company funds that he apparently saw fit to take with him.

HAVE YOUR OLD

FROSTY FRIDGE

SERVICED FREE



Most refrigerator companies would charge \$50 or more to inspect and service their old 1988 models. Not Frosty Fridge! We don't forget our friends just because their warranties have expired. So hire a truck to bring in look at what you'll receive with our compliments:

- 1. FREE inspection of all mov-
- 2. **FREE** oiling of door hinges.
 3. **FREE** water to refill ice cube
- 4. **FREE** replacement of N-16 valve, which the government claims is defective and could cause your refrigerator to explode.

HURRY! THIS GENEROUS OFFER MADE FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

Mandamus & Fleece Attorneys at Law

Mr. Jimmy Joe Boxford c/o Shorty's Pinball Arcade Beachfront Park

Dear Mr. Boxford:

Did you know that your blood type (J-Negative) is so rare that it can prove kinship to lost relatives you didn't even know you had? A Michigan judge recently decided a \$500,000 inheritance case in favor of a lad like you, just because he and his uncle both had J-Negative

Based on that Michigan decision, we soon hope to unite you legally with your "missing" blood. infant son. His mother's paternity suit against you, which will bring about that happy event, begins at 10 A.M. on Sept. 23 in Circuit Court. Please be there so I can congratulate you per-

sonally on becoming a father. Yours truly,

Deer Mom and Dad, I dm fine. The reeson I boam togo Camping our the desert with sum guys met. They are neet guys. Cook meels for me ou Also, they say you shood Put \$50,000 in the form at wonce. It you do ant, They say they will stop coking Meals for me outdoors and will eave me hear to rot. and will

AMERICAN OINTMENT WORKS,INC. REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS-A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Successful efforts by Management to slash plant maintenance and operating costs highlighted the brilliant fiscal year just completed by American Ointment. Target goals were far surpassed as the annual outlay for utility service was cut by 87 per-cent. Similar encouraging reductions were made in purchases of washroom towels and new pencils.

The deep cuts were primarily attributable to the permanent closing of our main factory in April. Department heads optimistically look forward to even bigger cost reductions this year, once your company has gone out of business altogether.

WERE OUT

TIME 12:30 pm

MESSAGE

Your wife wants you to bring home romantic incense, wine and a Phil Collins CD. She says they'll help you make out with some new babe. now that she's leaving you.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commuting time between this locality and downtown will soon be cut in half, thanks to construction of the projected Suburbia Freeway. Surveys indicate that the easier access will cause most home values in this area to double. The few homes which will not enjoy this phenomenal increase are those which must be torn down to make room for the Freeway. Fortunately, that only includes the homes in this block. Please be a good neighbor and move your junk out by Thursday so the bulldozer crews can begin their community improvement work.



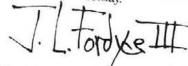
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Employee:

hey

Sometimes, it pays to count our blessings. That's why I am taking a moment to remind you that the community where we all work is in the heart of a natural wonderland. If you're like

If you're like me, you probably wish you had more time to enjoy outdoor pursuits. Now, thanks to the loss of the Snively Lumber account, you'll have unlimited free time following your early retirement. I'll be filled with envy as I building forever by 5 P.M. next Friday.



Signed by Emma Lu Vitsman for Mr. Fordyce, who is out of town on vacation



A WARM INVITATION TO ALL!!!

Local residents are cordially invited to a free lecture by Police Chief Hugh Newby at the High School next Tuesday evening. The Chief's subject will be, "Making Your Home More Secure." Cookies and Dr. Pepper will be served afterward.

This helpful talk consists of easy-to-follow advice for installing dead bolts, window latches and similar home improvements that may protect citizens from the four maniacs who escaped from the State Work Farm last night and reportedly are heading this way.

THE FAMILY SKEWED DEPT.

We've all heard your lame excuses, but MAD now presents ...

THE REAL REASONS



BRING YOUR FRIENDS



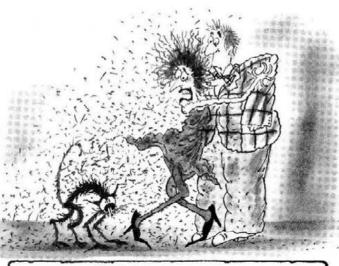
YOUR KID SISTER PLAYS THE ACCORDIAN



YOUR LIVING ROOM IS ALSO YOUR GUESTROOM



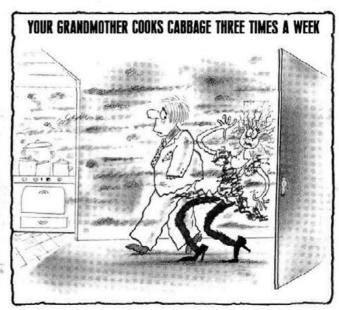
YOUR CAT HAS THE MANGE





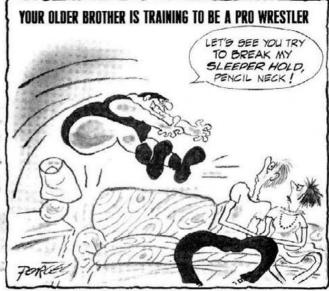
YOUR UNCLE SUFFERS FROM A CONSTANTLY SOUR STOMACH





YOUR GRANDFATHER READS ALOUD FROM THE FARMER'S ALMANAC







YOUTH GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL AT 7 DESPITE SEVERE DIAPER RASH

The invention of "pampers" played an important role in the unique case of Dorky Housecall, a seven-year-old with an I.Q. in the near "genius" range who, even at this early age, has already displayed

ACNE HOLDS GENIUS BACK AT PRINCETON

YOUNGEST MED STUDENT WON'T GRADUATE UNTIL AFTER HIS 9th BIRTHDAY

Dorky Housecall, appeared "not too concerned" at the turn of events leading to the



YOUNGEST DOCTOR IN MODERN HISTORY SKIPS NOBEL PRIZE CEREMONY TO ATTEND HIS OWN BAR MITZVAH

Saves Lives of Three Guests

For Dorky Housecall it was "business as usual" at the celebration marking the 13-year-old doctor's Bar Mitzvah. The brilliant youth applied the Heimlich maneuver to several of his gorging guests as Rabbi John Sternlicht

DORKY HOUS



PUBESCENT INTERN JOINS HOSPIT

Gifted Youth Unable to Serve with Emerg

Dorky Housecall, the "boy wonder" of the medical profession, will not be allowed to drive for five more years, thereby making him ineligible to serve on the special



TEEN-AGE DOCTOR HAS HIS OWN TV SERIES AT 16

In a typical television industry turn of events, both NBC and CBS announced new changes in their Wednesday prime time schedules in an attempt to thwart the challenge of ABC's new Steve Bochco entry based on the adventures of a teenage doctor, Dorky Housecall, M.D. One net



"KID DOCTOR" SHOW RATINGS REACH BARF LEVEL

Nation anxiously awaits MAD's amputation of...

ECALL, M.D.

ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO









Gee, that's great! This

is only our fourth

date and already I get

to perform my second

Darn, I can't

believe I'm

such a klutz!

I slipped and



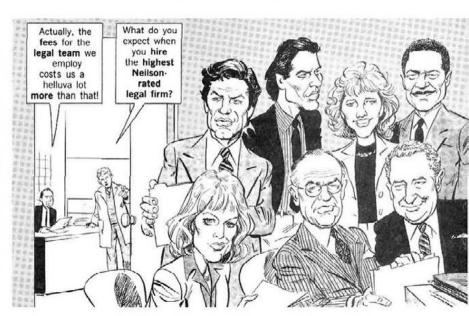


You've done it again, Dr. Housecall! You operated on your girlfriend without getting proper permission!

Do you realize what a mistake like that means? You could be brought up on malpractice charges! Her parents could have your license revoked! I think this time I'll really get tough and make you stay after operations and write "I will follow proper surgical procedures" on the blackboard 100 times!





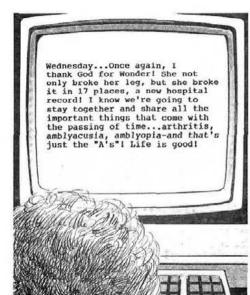




It's not a joke, Wonder, but

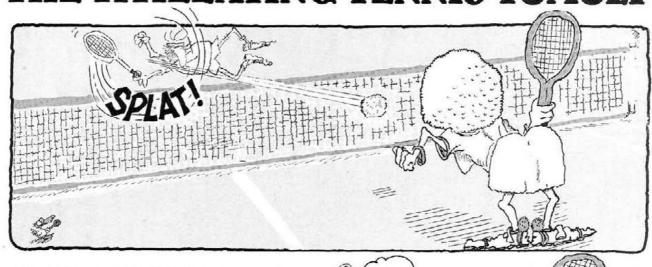
Dorky, I've just

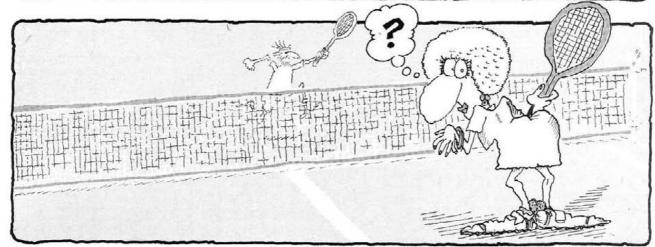


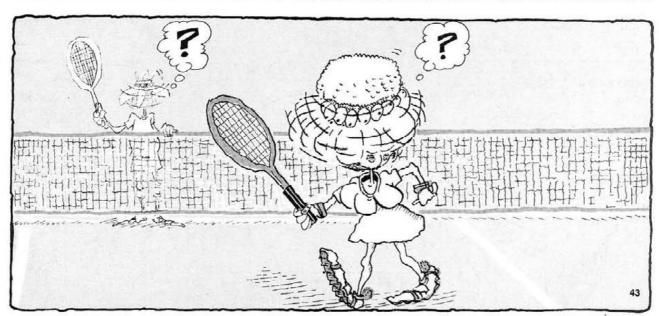


TALES FROM THE DUCK SIDE DEPT

THE TITILLATING TENNIS TUMULT







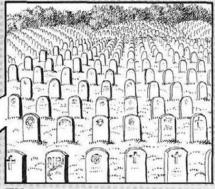
Dirty, rotten lies! Nobody likes lies! After all, our nation is founded on truth! But nowadays

POLITICAL H

THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The depletion of the ozone layer is not an immediate threat..."





THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"...because the 'Greenhouse Effect' will kill us first!"

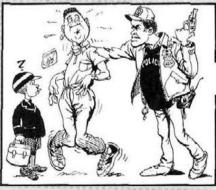
THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The homeless prefer to live on the street..."



THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The war on drugs is being won..."





THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"...by the South American Drug Lords!"

THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The government is ignoring our hostages..."



THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"More nuclear power plants mean more jobs..."





THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"...for cancer specialists!"

THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The cure for cancer takes a long time to discover..."



some truths are even bigger lies than lies! You'll see what we mean after checking out these...

ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE



THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"... which makes perfect sense if you've ever seen a public shelter!"



THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"...the same way the hostages ignored the government!"



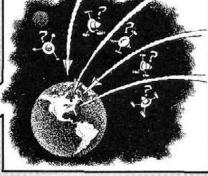
THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"...because once they find it, the researchers will be out of a job!"

THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"The plan to build a Star Wars defense system isn't a fantasy..."





THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

.. but the hope that it will actually work is!"

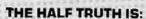
THE HALF-TRUTH IS:

"Capital punishment is a strong deterrent..."



"...but only to the guy who receives it!"

THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:



"Some African nations don't have money for food and medicine ..."



THE WHOLE TRUTH IS:

"... only for guns and tanks!"



If you get goosebumps when a Home Shopping Network seller gives you a "toot"...GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!



If you always make it a point to sit up front on a bus so you can "chat" with the driver ... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!



If you are on a first-name basis with all of the security guards at your local shopping mall ... GET A LIFE!!!!!



TAKING A SCHLEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION DEPT.

There are basically two kinds of people in the world: those who lead rich, exciting lives and those who do not. What group are you in? We're betting, based on the fact you're reading this intro, that you're part of the group that does not—the losers, the sticks-in-the-mud...the dull dweebs! Well, MAD wants to help you change! We're offering the following examples in the hope that they will motivate you to finally get off your butt, hold your head high and go out there and...



ARTIST: JACK DAVIS



If you only need to catch the episode where Mr. Drysdale falls into Granny's vat of homemade possum-fat soap to complete your "Beverly Hillbillies" checklist ... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!!



If you still own and operate a C.B. radio and you are not a licensed, interstate truck driver... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!





If you eagerly anticipate the day your jury duty notice arrives in the mail ... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!



If you program your VCR to record The Weather Channel while you're not at home ... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!



If you've ever yelled "One more time!" to a wedding band that just finished playing "The Alley Cat"... GET A LIFE!!

WRITER: CHARLIE KADAU



If you mail back your Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes entry form registered, return receipt requested... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!



If you've ever bragged to anyone that your next door neighbor's best friend is Wink Martindale's barber ... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!



If you think you're really putting one over on your bank by cleverly placing two Canadian cents in the centers of your rolls of saved-up pennies... GET A LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!

ADJUSTING THE VOLUMES DEPT.

Many of us are familiar with the titles of famous books of the past—even if we never bothered to actually take the time to read any of them! Their authors gave them the titles they thought were most appropriate at the time. But if those same books were written today, their names would probably be somewhat different to reflect our modern times. To see what we mean, check out

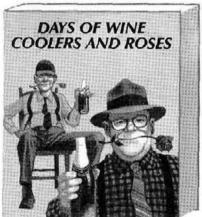
MAD'S UPDATED BOOK TITLES

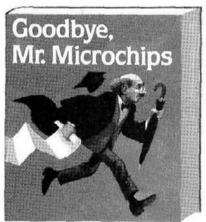
FOR THE 90'S

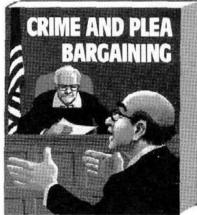




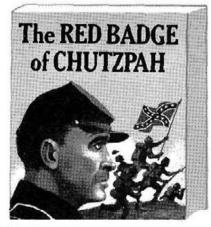


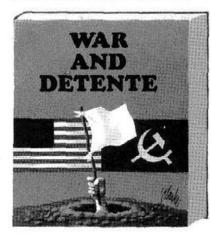












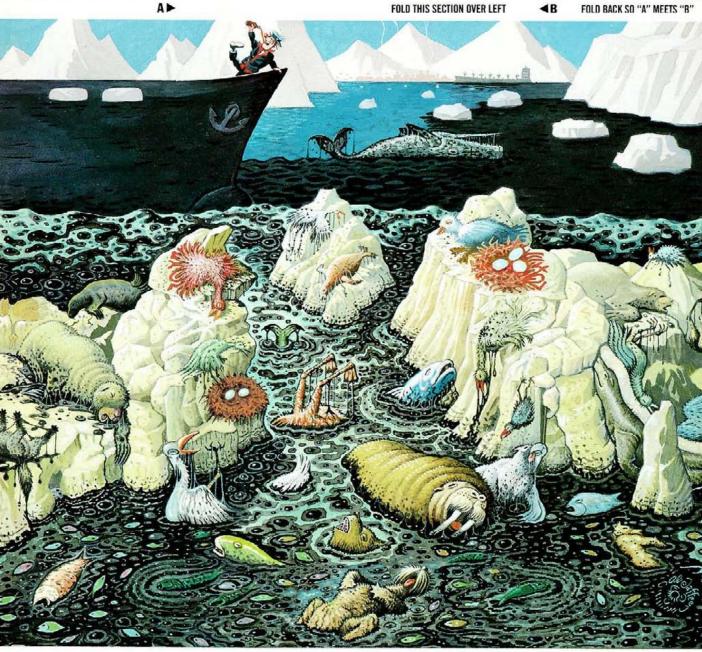
ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

WHAT CREATURE RECENTLY BECAME COMPLETELY EXTINCT IN ALASKA?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

One creature totally disappeared in the recent Alaskan oil spill. To find out which one it was, fold page in as shown.





THE EXPERTS AGREE—POLLUTERS SHOULD NOT BE EX-ONERATED WITHOUT FIRST MAKING AMENDS. CLEARLY, EVERY THINKING YOUNGSTER AND GROWNUP WORRIES THAT OUR PLANET'LL GET MUCH BLEAKER AS LIVING CREATURES DIE AND DISAPPEAR.

AN AD THEY'LL NEVER SHOW

Since you're such a

Smooth Character,
I'll give it to you straight...

You've got Cancer of the Hump!

